TRINITY COUNTY New Directions Program – (\$534,713 grant)

The New Directions Program is anchored in the evidence-based Assertive Community Treatment model combined with an intensive probation monitoring component. The program will partner with the Trinity County Behavior Health Crisis Team to provide 12 mentally ill offenders 24/7 access to support services. Priority will be given to those individuals initially assessed in-custody by a Behavioral Health Service Clinician as having a GAF score below 50 and having a dual-diagnosis of mental illness and substance abuse.

Once a client is referred to the program, a team comprised of a case manager and probation officer will initiate a "Whatever It Takes" service approach starting with an individualized in-custody needs assessment and plan. Services provided by this team will include home visits, symptom monitoring and medication compliance, housing, transportation, employment and benefit assistance, training in financial management and social skills, anger management and individual/family counseling. A senior level clinician and supervising probation officer will meet regularly with the project team to review each client's progress and assist in coordinating services in tandem with a multi-disciplinary team consisting of representatives from the Sheriff's Department, adult protective services, public health, domestic violence, mental health and substance abuse agencies.

In order to provide continuity of care, telepsychiatry services, provided by Kingsview Corporation, are available to clients both in-custody and post-custody for evaluation and medication management. An on-site registered nurse is available to assist with medication monitoring and symptom management. Participants will remain in active program services as long as necessary or may be transferred to Trinity County Behavioral Health programs once they receive Medi-CAL benefits, opening more grant funded program spaces.

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